3/7/18 8:50 A.M.

Chapter No. 323 18/SS01/R805 aj /tb/rc

SENATE BILL NO. 2484

Originated in Senate <u>Azwella</u>

___ Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 2484

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-43-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CLARIFY THE CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR EMBEZZLEMENT OR THEFT OF PERPETUAL CARE TRUST FUNDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

- **SECTION 1**. Section 41-43-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:
- 41-43-53. (1) Violation of any of the provisions of Sections 41-43-31 through 41-43-53 by any person, partnership, corporation or organization shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or by both.
- (2) (a) Any person, partnership, corporation or organization that embezzles or fraudulently or knowingly and willfully misapplies or converts perpetual care trust funds shall, upon conviction, be punished as follows:
- (i) If the amount embezzled, misapplied or converted is less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), by a fine

of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and confinement in the county jail not more than one (1) year; or

(ii) If the amount embezzled, misapplied or converted is One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or more, by imprisonment in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections for a term of not more than ten (10) years.

(b) Each such violation shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2018.

PASSED BY THE SENATE

Februar 1, 2

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 28 2018

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR

8:50 Am